

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 FRB-01 OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02

AGR-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-01 AF-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 779

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FOR EB/OT/GCP CLAY BLACK

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN, ETRD, SG

SUBJ: UNCTAD: COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES DRAFT RESOLUTION ON
ASSISTANCE TO LDC'S IN THE MTN

1. FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP
OF 77 AND INTRODUCED IN PLENARY BY EGYPT: BEGIN QUOTE:
CONSIDERING THAT MTN IN FIELD OF COMMODITIES ARE ABOUT TO
ENTER ACTIVE PHASE; RECALLING RESOLUTIONS 76 (III) AND 82 (III)
OF UNCTAD WHICH RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF FULL AND EFFECTIVE
PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND
OF NEED TO ASSIST THEM IN PREPARING FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION;
RECALLING FURTHER THE MEASURES ENVISAGED IN RESOLUTION 116
(XIV) OF UNCTAD AND IN RESOLUTION 3310 (XXIX) OF UNGA RE-
LATING TO ATTENDANCE OF THE SYG OF UNCTAD IN MTN; NOTING
VIEW OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT ASSISTANCE TO BE
EXTENDED TO THEM IN THIS REGARD SHOULD NOW BE ORIENTED
TOWARDS HELPING INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
PARTICIPATING IN MTN IN FORMULATING CURRENTLY APPLI-
CABLE IDEAS AND PROPOSALS OF NEGOTIABLE VALUE FOR
UTILIZATION DURING SAID NEGOTIATIONS; RECOGNIZING
RELATED WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY UNCTAD AND RE-
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SULTING VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE ACCUMULATED

IN FIELD BY UNCTAD SECRETARIAT AND ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FACILITIES: END QUOTE. BEGIN QUOTE: PARA 1. REQUESTS SYG OF UNCTAD TO CONSULT WITH INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN MTN REGARDING NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE BY UNCTAD FOR MAKING AVAILABLE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE ACCUMULATED IN UNCTAD IN ORDER TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN FORMULATING CURRENTLY APPLICABLE IDEAS AND PROPOSALS OF NEGOTIABLE VALUE FOR THEIR USE DURING NEGOTIATIONS; PARA 2. INVITES FAO TO MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SAME END, IN CO-OPERATION WITH SYG OF UNCTAD, BY MAKING AVAILABLE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CONCERNED ITS HIGHLY QUALIFIED EXPERTISE IN FIELD OF COMMODITIES AND COMMODITY PROBLEMS. END QUOTE. UNCTAD/UNDP PROJECT IS SUPPOSED TO BE DOING THIS.

2. COMMENT: RESOLUTION APPEARS TO COVER SAME GROUND AS PARA 8 OF RES. 82 (III) AND, IN VIEW OF ONGOING UNCTAD/UNDP PROGRAM WOULD SEEM UNNECESSARY. RESOLUTION IN REPORTEDLY NOT VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTED BY 77 NR, FROM USDEL'S OBSERVATION, IS IT STRONGLY OPPOSED BY GROUP B COUNTRIES. PREDOMINANT GROUP B FEELING SEEMS TO BE TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE WHERE POSSIBLE BUT TO BE FLEXIBLE ON ALL POINTS AND SAVE NEGOTIATING LEVERAGE FOR RESOLUTION ON INTEGRATED PROGRAM. GROUP B WILL OFFER AMENDMENTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

(A) THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH--DELETE REFERENCE TO UN RESOLUTION 3310 (WHICH US AND SEVERAL OTHERS VOTED AGAINST) AND REPLACE WITH REFERENCE TO LAST WEEK'S DECISION OF TNC ON UNCTAD PARTICIPATION IN MTN;

(B) ADD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH ON SIMILAR GATT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

(C) FIRST OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH--AMEND TO READ ROUGHLY AS FOLLOWS: "REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD TO CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH INTERESTED COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE MTN REGARDING THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE BY UNCTAD FOR MAKING AVAILABLE

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TO THESE COUNTRIES THE VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE ACCUMULATED IN UNCTAD IN ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO FORMULATE CURRENTLY APPLICABLE IDEAS AND PROPOSALS OF NEGOTIABLE VALUE FOR THEIR USE DURING NEGOTIATIONS." RESOLUTION MAY BE TAKEN UP IN CONTACT GROUP TODAY (FEBRUARY 18).USDEL WILL GENERALLY SUPPORT GROUP B APPROACH, INCLUDING FLEXIBILITY ON ALL PARTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.

DALE

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NNN

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